THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

TESTIMONY

of the

CONNECTICUT CONFERENCE OF MUNICIPALITIES

to the

ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

March 11, 2010

CCM is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 90% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate this opportunity to provide testimony to you on issues of concern to towns and cities.

Raised Senate Bill 419 "An Act Requiring Documentation of Utility Road Cuts."

SB 419 would, (1) require public service companies to provide notice to municipal public works departments when they make road cuts and repairs on local roads, and (2) require those public services companies to give municipalities an opportunity to inspect a photograph of the repairs.

CCM supports this bill as an improvement to the current system. However we have concerns that the language may be too vague regarding the time frame for which such notice must be given to municipalities on the part of the public service companies and whether only requiring public service companies to give municipalities the opportunity to inspect the repairs via a photograph and not a physical inspection of the site is sufficient.

CCM urges the committee to amend the language of the bill to (1) require public service departments to provide ample notice to municipal public works departments regarding road cuts and repairs, and (2) clarify that upon review of the photograph the municipality can determine that a physical inspection is warranted.

CCM urges the committee to <u>amend</u> SB 419 as recommended.

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If you have any questions, please contact Donna Hamzy, Legislative Associate via email dhamzy@ccm-ct.org or via phone at (203) 843-0705.